

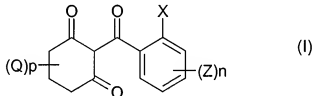
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Changes shown with additions and [[deletions]], the double bracket format preferred in this instance for ease of illustrating certain changes.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

We claim:

1. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal composition comprising:
(i) a metal chelate of a 2-(substituted benzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione of formula (I)



wherein X represents a halogen atom; a straight- or branched-chain alkyl or alkoxy group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more groups $-OR^1$ or one or more halogen atoms; or a group selected from nitro, cyano, $-CO_2R^2$, $-S(O)_mR^1$, $-O(CH_2)_nOR^1$, $-COR^2$, $-NR^2R^3$, $-SO_2NR^2R^3$, $-CONR^2R^3$, $-CSNR^2R^3$ and $-OSO_2R^4$;

R^1 represents a straight- or branched-chain alkyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms;

R^2 and R^3 each independently represents a hydrogen atom; or a straight- or branched-chain alkyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms;

R^4 represents a straight- or branched-chain alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group containing up to six carbon atoms optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms; or a cycloalkyl group containing from three to six carbon atoms;

each Z independently represents halo, nitro, cyano, $S(O)_mR^5$, $OS(O)_mR^5$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, (C_1-C_6) haloalkyl, (C_1-C_6) haloalkoxy, carboxy, (C_1-C_6) alkylcarbonyloxy, (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_6) alkylcarbonyl, amino, (C_1-C_6) alkylamino, (C_1-C_6) dialkylamino having independently the stated number of carbon atoms in each alkyl group, (C_1-C_6) alkylcarbonylamino, (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonylamino, (C_1-C_6) alkylaminocarbonylamino,

(C₁-C₆)dialkylaminocarbonylamino having independently the stated number of carbon atoms in each alkyl group, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyloxy, (C₁-C₆)alkylaminocarbonyloxy, (C₁-C₆)dialkylcarbonyloxy, phenylcarbonyl, substituted phenylcarbonyl, phenylcarbonyloxy, substituted phenylcarbonyloxy, phenylcarbonylamino, substituted phenylcarbonylamino, phenoxy or substituted phenoxy;

R⁵ represents cyano, -COR⁶, -CO₂R⁶ or -S(O)_mR⁷;

R⁶ represents hydrogen or straight- or branched-chain alkyl group containing up to six carbon atoms;

R⁷ represents (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)haloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)cyanoalkyl, (C₃-C₈)cycloalkyl optionally substituted with halogen, cyano or (C₁-C₄)alkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted with one to three of the same or different halogen, nitro, cyano, (C₁-C₄)haloalkyl, (C₁-C₄)alkyl, (C₁-C₄)alkoxy or -S(O)_mR⁸;

R⁸ represents (C₁-C₄)alkyl;

each Q independently represents (C₁-C₄)alkyl or -CO₂R⁹ wherein R⁹ is (C₁-C₄)alkyl;

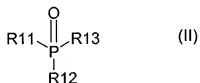
m is zero, one or two;

n is zero or an integer from one to four;

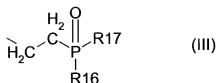
r is one, two or three; and

p is zero or an integer from one to six; and

(ii) an organic phosphate, phosphonate or phosphinate adjuvant, wherein the phosphate, phosphonate or phosphinate adjuvant is a compound of formula II



wherein R¹¹ is an alkoxy group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms or a group -[OCH₂CHR¹⁴]_t-OR¹⁵ wherein R¹⁴ is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl, t is from 0 to 50 and R¹⁵ is hydrogen or an alkyl group containing from 1 to 20 carbon atoms; and R¹² and R¹³ are independently (i) an alkyl or alkenyl group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms; (ii) optionally substituted phenyl; (iii) an alkoxy group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms or (iv) a group -[OCH₂CHR¹⁴]_t-OR¹⁵ as herein defined; or (v) a group of formula (III)



wherein R¹⁶ is an alkoxy group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms or a group -[OCH₂CHR¹⁴]_n-OR¹⁵ as herein defined and R¹⁷ is an alkyl group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms, optionally substituted phenyl, an alkoxy group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms or a group -[OCH₂CHR¹⁴]_n-OR¹⁵ as herein defined; and wherein t is from 0 to ten.

2. (Original) A herbicidal composition according to claim 1, wherein X is chloro, bromo, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₄ alkyl, -CF₃, -S(O)_mR¹, or -OR¹.
3. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal composition according to claim 1, wherein each Z is independently chloro, bromo, nitro, cyano, C₁-C₄ alkyl, -CF₃, -OR¹, -OS(O)_mR⁵ or -S(O)_mR⁵.
4. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal composition according to claim 1, wherein n is one or two.
5. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal composition according to claim 1, wherein p is zero.
6. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal composition according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of
 2-(2'-nitro-4'-methylsulphonylbenzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione,
 2-(2'-nitro-4'-methylsulphonyloxy benzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione,
 2-(2'-chloro-4'-methylsulphonylbenzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione,
 4,4-dimethyl-2-(4-methanesulphonyl-2-nitrobenzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione,
 2-(2-chloro-3-ethoxy-4-methanesulphonylbenzoyl)-5-methyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione and
 2-(2-chloro-3-ethoxy-4-ethanesulphonylbenzoyl)-5-methyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal composition according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (II) is a phosphate in which R¹¹, R¹² and R¹³ are all independently alkoxy groups.

9. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal composition according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (II) is a phosphonate in which R^{11} and R^{12} are both independently alkoxy groups and R^{13} is an alkyl, alkenyl or optionally substituted phenyl group.
10. (Previously Presented) A herbicidal composition according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (II) is a phosphinate in which R^{11} is an alkoxy group and R^{12} and R^{13} are both independently an alkyl, alkenyl or optionally substituted phenyl group.
11. (Currently Amended) A process for the control of at least one ~~[[weeds]]~~weed, said process comprising applying to ~~[[the]]~~a locus of the at least one ~~[[weeds]]~~weed a herbicidally effective amount of a composition as claimed in claim 1.
12. (Previously Presented) A method of improving the selectivity of a metal chelate of a 2-(substituted benzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, when applied to unwanted vegetation in a crop of useful plants, said method comprising the applying of a herbicidally effective amount of a composition as claimed in claim 1.
13. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the at least one weed is selected from the group consisting of Stellaria, Nasturtium, Agrostis, Digitaria, Avena, Setaria, Sinapis, Lolium, Solanum, Phaseolus, Echinochloa, Scirpus, Monochoria, Sagittaria, Bromus, Alopecurus, Sorghum halepense, Rottboellia, Cyperus, Abutilon, Sida, Xanthium, Amaranthus, Chenopodium, Ipomoea, Chrysanthemum, Galium, Viola, and Veronica.
14. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the locus is soil, seed, seedling or established vegetation.